

Students Present Imagine Mars Digital Stories at JPL Webcast

On August 4th, three Students from the Northpointe Neighborhood Network in Long Beach, California starred in a live webcast at JPL. During the 45-minute program, students presented the digital stories they spent 12 weeks creating last spring. After a round-table discussion with engineers Kobie Boykins and Geoff Lake, the panelists took live questions from viewers. "These kids did incredible work and I'm so glad they got to highlight it today," said Imagine Mars project lead Stephenie Lievense.

The students' projects incorporated images and sound into a moving PowerPoint Presentation that

demonstrated their solutions to surviving the harsh martian environment. To check out the webcast and their stories visit: <http://imaginemars.jpl.nasa.gov/about/webcast.html>



PROJECT OF THE SEASON



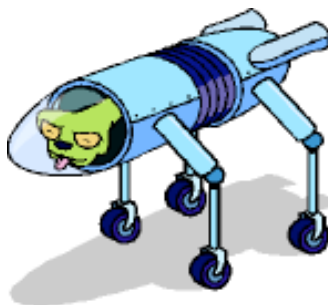
Students in Mrs. Stiver's second grade class created a model of their martian community called "Marsopolis." They built stores, homes, farms, even a TV station! Before construction began, the students studied Mars and thought about the elements needed to sustain a community. They developed mission badges and voted on necessities. To take a look at the students project, go to:

<http://imaginemars.jpl.nasa.gov/gallery>

Would Your Students Like to Talk to a NASA Scientist about Mars?

Just upload your Imagine Mars Project to the Project Gallery and the team at Imagine Mars Headquarters will set up an online chat or phone call with your group and a scientist or engineer from NASA.

<http://imaginemars.jpl.nasa.gov/gallery>



NASA's Solar System Ambassadors Ready to Support YOUR Imagine Mars Project



Did you know that NASA has a fleet of over 400 men and women all over the country who are specially trained in NASA's space missions? They are eager and willing to support your Imagine Mars or other NASA education project. Many of the ambassadors are professionals from the education and museum community who could enhance your programs with knowledge, fun activities and new ideas. To find an ambassador near you, visit:

<http://www2.jpl.nasa.gov/ambassador/>

Click on the Meet the Ambassador link on the top navigation bar, select

your state or territory and review the entries. Ambassadors furnish short biographical statements for the purpose of detailing their areas of interest and expertise. Following the biography is a list of past events conducted by the Ambassador to further aid in decision-making. Inquiries about an Ambassador's availability should be made by sending an email directly to the individual.

Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter Mission Status

(From <http://jpl.nasa.gov>)
August 17, 2005

NASA's Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter, launched on Aug. 12, has completed one of the first tasks of its seven-month cruise to Mars, a calibration activity for the spacecraft's Mars Color Imager instrument.

"We have transitioned from launch mode to cruise mode, and the spacecraft continues to perform extremely well," said Dan Johnston, Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter deputy mission manager at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory, Pasadena, Calif.

The first and largest of four trajectory correction maneuvers scheduled before the orbiter reaches Mars is planned for Aug. 27. For more information about the Mars Reconnaissance Mission, visit:

<http://marsprogram.jpl.nasa.gov/mro/>



Artist's concept of MRO en route to Mars. Image Credit: NASA/PL

**Mars
Mission
Update**

Become a Cooperating Organization

The Cooperating organization commitment forms are now online on the Imagine Mars Web site. We are seeking the help of education, arts, technology and science-focused organizations to help spread the word about the Imagine Mars project.

Cooperating organizations will receive special advance notification of new site features, special invitations to webcasts and have the opportunity to submit their education-related news for the Imagine Mars e-mail newsletter. The Imagine Mars Project will also recognize cooperating organizations on the project site and link to their websites.

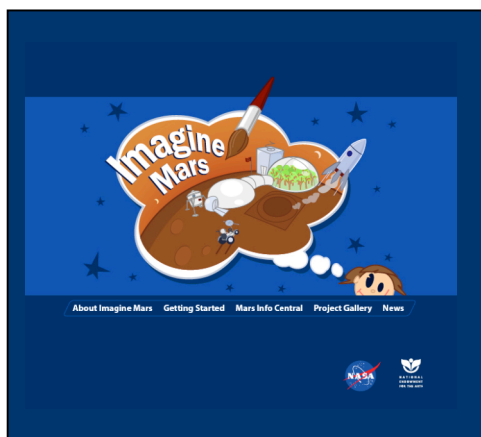
In turn, cooperating organizations will be asked to post an official link from their sites to the Imagine Mars

project website and print periodic project-related news in e-mail and print newsletters about upcoming Imagine Mars events. Log on now to <http://ImagineMars.jpl.nasa.gov/about/become.html> and download your copy of the cooperating organization commitment form and help us on our mission to bring the Imagine Mars project to students everywhere.



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On behalf of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA), the Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL) in Pasadena, California manages the Imagine Mars Project as part of the Mars Public Engagement program, which seeks to educate the public about scientific discoveries and benefits of NASA's missions to Mars. JPL is a division of the California Institute of Technology.

About Imagine Mars...

The Imagine Mars Project is co-sponsored by NASA and the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA). It is a Web-based initiative that provides you with lesson plans, Mars facts and other resources to lead student project teams. The goal of the project is to encourage students to explore their home community, to interact with scientists, artists, and community leaders, and to understand the different planetary environments

on Mars. Ultimately, students complete a project that highlights the scientific and cultural elements they determine would be important to their imagined community on Mars.

The project site, <http://ImagineMars.jpl.nasa.gov>, contains participation guides, resources for project leaders, profiles of artists, engineers, and scientists, a project gallery and other interactive features.

